

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A device for the electrical initiation of at least one pyrotechnic microcharge, characterized in that it comprises a support element having at least one electrically conductive portion connected to a first terminal of a central control unit, a second terminal of said central control unit being intended to be electrically connected to an electrically conductive support, the microcharge being located at a sufficient distance from said conductive support to be able to be ignited by localized heating of the support, this heating being carried out via the conductive portion placed in contact with the conductive support, just beneath the pyrotechnic microcharge.

2. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge is deposited on the conductive support.

3. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge is separated from the support by at least one thermally conductive layer.

4. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the conductive portion is produced at least at the top of a finger, said finger being positioned so as to bear via its top against the conductive support.

5. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger is mounted on a spring.

6. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger is an electrode made of carbon or made of titanium.

7. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the finger consists of a boss made of flexible material formed on the support element.

8. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the support element consists of a thermoformed sheet of flexible material in which said boss is formed, the boss forming a finger intended to bear via its top against the conductive support.

9. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that, when the support element comprises a plurality of fingers, the electrically conductive portions are connected in parallel to the first terminal of the central control unit.

10. (Previously Presented) The device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that, when the support element comprises a plurality of fingers, the position of the fingers can be adjusted.

11. (Previously Presented) A microactuator comprising an actuating element that can be actuated by the gases emanating from the combustion of at least one pyrotechnic microcharge, characterized in that said microcharge is located at a sufficient distance from a conductive layer to be able to be ignited by localized heating using an initiation device in accordance with that of claim 1, in which an electrically conductive portion is placed on said pyrotechnic microcharge in contact with the conductive layer, just beneath said pyrotechnic microcharge.

12. (Previously Presented) The microactuator as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the pyrotechnic microcharge is deposited on a face of the conductive layer and in that the conductive portion is in contact with the face of the conductive layer on the opposite side to that on which the pyrotechnic microcharge is deposited.

13. (Previously Presented) The microactuator as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the conductive layer consists of a metal film.

14. (Previously Presented) The microactuator as claimed in claim 13, characterized in that the film is made of aluminum.

15. (Previously Presented) The microactuator as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the aluminum film has a thickness of between 20 and 150 μm .

16. (Previously Presented) The microactuator as claimed in claim 14, characterized in that the aluminum film has a thickness of 70 μm .

17. (Currently Amended) The microactuator as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that ~~it~~the microactuator is produced by assembling superposed layers.

18. (Currently Amended) The microactuator as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that ~~it~~the microactuator includes a cavity formed by the multilayer assembly, in which cavity at least one pyrotechnic microcharge is placed, said cavity being closed by a layer constituting a deformable membrane.

19. (Previously Presented) A microsystem, characterized in that it comprises a support for a plurality of adjacent microactuators in accordance with that of claim 11, the pyrotechnic microcharges of the microactuators being located at a sufficient distance from the conductive layer to be able to be ignited, each independently, by heating using the initiation device whose support element is fitted onto the support for the microactuators, said initiation device comprising a plurality of conductive portions connected in parallel to the first terminal of the central control unit, a conductive portion being placed on each of the pyrotechnic microcharges, in contact with the conductive layer, just beneath each of the pyrotechnic microcharges.

20. (Previously Presented) The microsystem as claimed in claim 19, characterized in that the microactuators are all formed from an assembly of the same layers.